

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for allowing a seller of items to gather data from e-commerce websites, comprising:

a. a website server computer connected to the Internet, including a database for storing data about previous sales of ~~said~~ a plurality of items on one or more of the e-commerce websites,

b. database management software for maintaining said database,

c. data gathering software that visits the e-commerce websites to compile said data about said previous sales, and

d. application software ~~for~~ operable to

allowing a user seller to request from the database said data about said previous sales pertaining to an item to be offered for sale from the e-commerce websites,

receive comparison parameters specified by the seller,

use the comparison parameters to compare the data gathered from the e-commerce websites that pertains to the item to be offered for sale, and

provide a visual representation of the comparison of the data gathered from the e-commerce websites to the seller.

2. (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said data gathering software comprises agent software that, at regular intervals, searches said e-commerce websites to obtain said data about said previous sales.

3. (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein said data gathering software comprises agent software that, at times determined by a seller, searches said e-commerce websites to obtain said data about said previous sales.

4. (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, further including network connection software to enable the application software to communicate over the Internet with a seller at a

remote computer.

5. (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 2, further including network connection software to enable the agent software to communicate over the Internet with an e-commerce website.

6. (Previously Amended) The apparatus of claim 3, further including network connection software to enable the agent software to communicate over the Internet with an e-commerce website.